

Deputy Commander “straw man” remarks for Carrier Strike Group TWO 12 JAN 12

Communication Objectives

- Highlight strike group accomplishments under RADM Tyson’s leadership
- Display confidence in RDML Nosal as new commander
- Emphasize importance of good leaders and the affect they have on mission accomplishment
- Navy faces difficult challenges with shrinking military personnel size and op tempo increases but because of your hard work and sacrifices, we are able to accomplish the mission
- Highlight the off shore capabilities and options Navy offers
- Communicate the three tenets of the CNO’s Sailing Directions
- Speak of parallels of today’s Sailors, their professionalism and war fighting capabilities to those of 200 years ago
- Parallel Strike Group operations to those of the War of 1812

Introduction

- Thank DVs present, RADM Tyson and RDML Nosal, spouses, and staff and briefly describe highlights of the recent deployment. (*Listed below*)

Highlights of CSG led by RADM Tyson

- The BUSH Strike Group is comprised of CSG-2, CVW-8, CDS-22, USS GEORGE H. W. BUSH, USS ANZIO, USS GETTYSBURG, USS TRUXTUN, and USS MITSCHER.
- The GHWBSG Steamed over 200K NMs in North Atlantic, English Channel, Mediterranean, Adriatic, Aegean, Black, Red, and Arabian Seas, Indian Ocean and Arabian Gulf.
- The CSG participated in OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM and supported OPERATION NEW DAWN.
- They participated in five multi-national and seven bi-lateral exercises/operations in the EUCOM and CENTCOM AORs, to include turning over CTF-IM to the Iraqi Navy.
- They hosted numerous dignitaries and officials from 35 nations.
- The CSG provided assistance in five Safety-of-Life-at-Sea (SOLAS) incidents.
- 327 GHWBSCG Sailors provided 1600 man-hours by working shoulder-to-shoulder with volunteers from partner nations to conduct 28 different COMREL projects in 16 nations.
- GHWB CSG Conducted the following firsts:
 - First deployment for the world’s newest aircraft carrier

- The first deployment of the new EA-18G Growler electronic warfare aircraft, adding a new level of supremacy for Electronic Warfare in the skies over Afghanistan and Iraq
 - First East coast deployment of combined HSC and HSM rotary wing aircraft
- The CSG provided Maritime Security Operations across nine major bodies of water with surface and air support.

Service of Choice for future challenges

- On any given day, we might need to attack a terrorist camp, capture a pirate vessel, and deliver emergency relief – all in different parts of the world – We cannot always afford to wait to set up big operations on land, or to get another country's permission to come ashore.
- Unstable regimes are developing nuclear weapons that could be used against our allies or us.
- Rising powers have begun military buildups to match their economic growth – with uncertain consequences for the future.
- Weak and failed states create havens for groups that seek to do us harm. Al Qaeda in Afghanistan is one example of this, and so are the Somali pirates.
- The bottom line: We cannot predict where the next threat will come from. We need to be ready to confront a range of challenges, whenever and wherever they happen.
- The Navy is ideally suited for this kind of world. That is because the Navy is fast and flexible.
- Our ships, submarines and aircraft can go anywhere on the ocean at short notice.

The Benefits of Offshore Capabilities

- They can do all of their work from the water: Navy ships and submarines can shoot at targets and knock out enemy missiles far inland – from the water.
- Navy planes fly about half of the aerial combat missions in Afghanistan. They don't need airstrips on the ground. They take off on aircraft carriers – from the water.
- Navy SEAL teams can carry out special operations worldwide – from the water.
- In a humanitarian crisis like the Japan tsunami or the earthquake in Haiti, the Navy can deliver huge amounts of supplies and provide medical care and other assistance -- from the water.

CNO's Tenets

- The key considerations we should apply to every decision

- War fighting first: Be ready to fight and win today, while building the ability to win tomorrow
- Operate Forward: Provide offshore options to deter, influence and win in an era of uncertainty
- Be Ready: Harness the teamwork, talent and imagination of our diverse force to be ready to fight and responsibly employ our resources

Parallels of 1812 to Today

- For more than 200 years, the U.S. Navy has ensured freedom of the seas. By promoting and defending democracy, we have protected the American way of life.
- Motivated, experienced volunteer Sailors, with a diverse background, fought the tough battles fought in the War of 1812. They were a group of exceptional war fighters mentored by senior leadership and combat tested worldwide – to include along the Barbary Coast in North Africa.
- Those Sailors are not very different from those of you who stand before us today.
- You too are combat tested by supporting OPERATION NEW DAWN along Northern Africa and OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM in CENTCOM.
- Sailing forward in the defense of America and our allies, you, like those Sailors two-hundred years ago, are operating forward.
- 200 years ago, they sailed forward in wooden frigates, ships that were superior at the time and fought from the coast of England to the Caribbean to the southern tip of South America.
- The same great American innovative spirit of the ship designers and skilled maritime labor force that created superior fighting ships for global force projection in 1812 continues today.
- Today you sail aboard the most technologically advanced lethal war ships in the world and are protecting America and our allies from threats around the globe.
- The heroes from The War of 1812 we have come to admire over the years, such as Oliver Hazard Perry, were *volunteers*. *Volunteers* who risked their lives to defend a brand new nation and ensure the freedom they had recently fought so hard to win survived. Today, **you** continue that tradition and represent the absolute finest the nation has ever seen in service to our Navy. Our all-volunteer Navy is the best educated, most professional, and most diverse in the world and has continued to maintain freedom.
- Much as history has come to judge the Sailors in the War of 1812, so will our efforts and actions fighting the challenges of today. History will come to judge how we responded while it was our turn to stand watch.

Closing

- I encourage all of you here today to seek out challenges, view adversity as opportunities.
- You and your families are the foundation of our service. You play an important role that is defining the path that the fleet and the nation will travel in the future and the form they will take from this day forward.
- I ask that you continue to serve with great confidence in your leadership, follow their example, and lead your people in the same manner they lead you. Thanks for all that you do.
- Thank you for your continued service, dedication and overall excellent support to our great nation and Navy.